

USDA Rural Development Grant and Loan Opportunities for Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency & Value-Added Projects

Presented By:



United States Department of Agriculture

Tuesday, December 19, 2006

1:30-3:30 p.m.

San Luis Valley Information Center

947 1st Street

Monte Vista, CO 81144

Hosted By:



**SAN LUIS VALLEY
DEVELOPMENT RESOURCES GROUP**

Monte Vista Economic Development Council



Seminar Topics/Agenda

1:30 p.m. USDA Rural Development Value-Added Producer Grant Program

These grants may be used for planning activities, working capital, marketing value-added agricultural products and for farm-based renewable energy.

2:30 p.m. USDA's Renewable Energy/Energy Efficiency Grant and Loan Program

Farmers, Ranchers and rural small businesses are eligible to apply for grant funding under this program for renewable energy projects including systems that generate energy from wind, solar, biomass, or geothermal sources or that produce hydrogen derived from biomass or water using a renewable energy source. Renewable energy projects can include the generation of electricity, heat, fuels, or hydrogen.

THIS PROGRAM CAN ALSO FUND RURAL BUSINESS ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROJECTS!

Energy efficiency projects typically involve installing or upgrading equipment that result in a significant reduction in energy use from current operations. Eligible project costs include: Post-application construction or project improvements, except residential; Energy audits or assessments; Permit fees; Professional service fees, except for application preparation; Feasibility studies; Business plans; Retrofitting. **Grant requests must not exceed 25% of the eligible project costs.**

NOTE THE ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES Presented on 12/19: LOAN GUARANTEE

The USDA offers loan guarantees for renewable energy projects through two programs: the Section 9006 Renewable Energy Systems and Energy Efficiency Improvement Program and the Business and Industry (B&I) program. USDA Rural Development administers both programs. Loan guarantees help to finance renewable energy projects by providing a governmental guarantee to commercial lenders for a portion of the loan

This seminar presents an overview of USDA Rural Development grant and loan programs that have facilitated renewable energy and energy efficiency projects, strengthening our economy and national security.

Future grant opportunities are dependent on funding authorization in 2007.

Please RSVP as soon as possible. Space is limited.

**Call Rural Development at
719-589-5661 ext. 4 to register.**